

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions/listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-14 (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A foam component comprising a matrix formed from a polymeric material and a plasticiser, ~~a dissolution aid~~, and an active ingredient; wherein said component is in the form of a particle having a mean particle size of from about 50 to about 4000 microns and is adapted for stability upon contact with air and instability upon contact with water.

16. (previously presented) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein at least part of the active ingredient is released upon contact with water.

17. (previously presented) The foam component according to claim 16, wherein said component at least partially disintegrates, disperses, denatures and/or dissolves upon contact with water.

18. (previously presented) The foam component according to claim 15, comprising an elastic modulus of less than about 10GN.m^{-2} .

19. (currently amended) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of: cleaning product ingredients, fabric care ingredients, pharmaceutical ingredients, cosmetic ingredients, and mixtures thereof.

20. (previously presented) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of: enzymes, surfactants, brighteners, dyes, suds suppressers, bleaches, bleach activators, fabric softeners, fabric conditioners, antibacterial agents and mixtures thereof.

21. (currently amended) The foam component according to claim 15, further comprising a ~~wherein said dissolution aid comprises~~ selected from the group consisting of an effervescence system, a hydrotrope, a cellulosic material, a water-soluble salt, and combinations thereof.

22. (currently amended) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said polymeric material ~~comprises~~ has a glass transition temperature of less than about 50°C .

23. (previously presented) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said polymeric material comprises a water-soluble polymer.

24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said component ~~comprises~~ has a relative density of from about 0.05 to about 0.9.

26. (currently amended) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said component comprises a series of closed cells and open cells, wherein the ratio of closed cells to open cells is at least about 1 to 1.

27. (currently amended) A process for preparing a foam component, comprising the steps of:

- a. obtaining a mixture ~~of comprising~~ a polymeric material;
- b. chemically or physically introducing a gas into said mixture;
- c. prior to, simultaneous with, or subsequent to step (b), contacting an active ingredient to ~~with~~ said mixture;
- d. optionally, prior to, simultaneous with, or subsequent to step (b), contacting a dissolution agent to aid with said mixture; and
- e. shaping the articles of the resulting mixture into particles having a mean particle size of from about 50 to about 4000 microns.

28. (currently amended) The process ~~of according to~~ claim 27, wherein prior to step (b), said dissolution agent aid is contacted with said mixture of polymeric material ~~and plasticiser~~.

29. (previously presented) A method of delivering active ingredients using the foam component of claim 16, comprising the step of incorporating said ingredients into said component and delivering said component into an aqueous environment.

30. (previously presented) A method of using the foam component of claim 15 in a composition, comprising the step of incorporating said component into a composition selected from the group consisting of: cleaning compositions, fabric care compositions, personal care compositions, cosmetic compositions, pharmaceutical compositions and mixtures thereof.

31. (currently amended) The method according to claim 30, further comprising the step of incorporating active ingredients into said foam component, said active ingredients being selected

from the group consisting of: enzymes, ~~perfumes~~, surfactants, brighteners, dyes, suds suppressers, bleaches, bleach activators, fabric softeners, antibacterial agents, effervescing systems and mixtures thereof.

32. (new) The method according to claim 31, wherein said active ingredients are enzymes.

33. (new) The method according to claim 31, wherein said active ingredients are bleaches, bleach activators, or mixtures thereof.

34. (new) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said active ingredients are enzymes.

35. (new) The foam component according to claim 15, wherein said active ingredients are bleaches, bleach activators, or mixtures thereof.

36. (new) The process according to claim 27, wherein said active ingredients are enzymes.

37. (new) The process according to claim 27, wherein said active ingredients are bleaches, bleach activators, or mixtures thereof.